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Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 130214

FOLLOWING REPEAT LUSAKA 1226 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
BLANTYRE DAR ES SALAAM LISBON MBABANE LOURENCO
MARQUES LUANDA 17 JUNE.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1226

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, MZ
SUBJECT: COREMO CONTACTS WITH PORTUGUESE JOURNALISTS

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 1678; LOURENCO MARQUES 409

1. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, COREMO PRESIDENT PAUL GUMANE ABSENT
FROM LUSAKA DURING PORTUGUESE FONMIN SOARES' TALKS WITH FRELIMO
LAST WEEK. COREMO FINANCIAL SECRETARY VALENTINE SITHOLE TOLD
EMBOFF COREMO DID NOT ATTEMPT MEET WITH SOARES DURING HIS
VISIT. HOWEVER, SITHOLE AND OTHER COREMO STAFF WERE INTER-
VIEWED BY JOURNALISTS FROM PORTUGUAL, MOZAMBIQUE, AND
ANGOLA. SITHOLE REFERRED TO ONE JOURNALIST NAMED
JUDES (PHONETIC), WHOME HE DESCRIBED AS "SOARES' JOURNALIST,"
AS BEING IN GROUP. NAME UNKNOWN TO GRZ OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE
FOR VISITING MEDIA REPS.
2. SITHOLE SAID COREMO TOLD REPORTERS IT FAVORED HOLDING
OF REFERENDUM IN MOZAMBIQUE ON TERRITORY'S FUTURE AS THIS
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WOULD SHOW COREMO'S SUPPORT TO BE WIDESPREAD. COREMO

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ALSO SAID IT READY TO MEET WITH PORTUGUESE ANYWHERE BESIDES
LUSAKA AND DAR, "EVEN IN LISBON." MOREOVER, COREMO SAID
IT FAVORED CONTINUED ECONOMIC CONTACTS WITH WEST AFTER INDEPENDENCE.
SITHOLE SAID MOZAMBICAN JOURNALISTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE FROM
BEIRA, RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO COREMO'S POSITIONS AND CONFIRMED
COREMO ENJOYED SUPPORT WITHIN MOZAMBIQUE.
3. ASKED WHETHER COREMO HAD RECEIVED ANY FEELERS FROM PORTUGAL
ABOUT POSSIBLE TALKS, SITHOLE SAID THERE HAD BEEN NONE.
4. COMMENT: THOUGH COREMO APPEARS HAVE VISIONS OF CURRYING
FAVOR WITH GOP AND WHITES IN MOZAMBIQUE, UNLESS IT HAS
CONSIDERABLY MORE SUPPORT INSIDE MOZAMBIQUE IN ADDITION TO
ITS SUPPOSED 30-40 MEMBERS IN ZAMBIA, DIFFICULT BELIEVE IT
HAS MUCH FUTURE. IN OUR VIEW, COREMO IS VIRTUALLY MORIBUND
ORGANIZATION WHICH CONTINUES EXIST ONLY BECAUSE OF GUMANE'S
VIBRANT PERSONALITY AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT SUPPLIED BY
PRESIDENT MOBUTU OF ZAIRE.
WILKOWSKI UNQUOTE BROWN

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